

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of the present application. Claim 25 has been cancelled. Claims 1, 14 and 22 have been amended. No new claims have been added. Therefore, claims 1-24 and 26-33 are presented for examination.

Claim Amendments

Applicant has amended the claims to clarify that a story concept is for a story, and that content from each of the multiple collaborators is approved for inclusion in the story. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §102

Dabney

Claims 1-6, 9, 10, 14-18, 22-26, 28 and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Dabney, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,643,663 ("Dabney"). Applicant reserves the right to challenge the use of Dabney as prior art. Applicant respectfully submits, however, that the present claims are not anticipated by Dabney.

Dabney discloses a workflow for handling news stories using a content management system (CMS). When a news story breaks, reporters cover the news story. Content for the news story is prepared by human editors. After approval from news editors, the completed news story is stored on content servers for distribution. The stored news story data from each content server is transmitted to the CMS. A web editor reviews and edits the news story stored in the CMS and assigns the news story to a section of a website. Since the news story has already been edited by the traditional news media editors, any additional editing by the web editor will be for content and format for website publication. (Dabney, col. 5 ln. 60 – col. 6 ln. 32).

Independent claims 1, 14, 22, and 28, as amended, each include the limitation of posting a story concept for a story. Applicant respectfully submits that Dabney does not disclose this limitation. The Examiner has interpreted Dabney's news story

data as the claimed story concept. (Office Action, p.2). However, the news story data in Dabney is a "completed news story", which has been prepared by human editors, then approved by news editors for distribution in its finished form. (Dabney, col. 6, line 3; Figure 2). Once transmitted to the Content Management System (CMS), any modification of the news story is only to accommodate website publication. Applicant respectfully notes that the claimed "story concept" is a distinct claim element from the claimed "story." For example, in claim 1, a story is created from content associated with the story concept. Thus, Dabney's completed news story is not equivalent to the claimed story concept.

Furthermore, independent claims 1, 14, 22, and 28, as amended, include the limitation of approving content from multiple collaborators for inclusion in the story. Dabney discloses that the news editors approve the story as a completed whole, as opposed to individually approving portions of the story, which were contributed by various collaborators, for inclusion into the completed story. Thus, Dabney's approval of the completed story is not equivalent to the claimed limitation.

Accordingly, independent claims 1, 14, 22, and 28 and claims 2-6, 9, 10, 15-18, 23-24, 26 and 29 that depend from them, are not anticipated by Dabney, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Dabney in view of Plantz

Claims 7 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabney in view of Plantz, et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,088,702 ("Plantz"). Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are patentable over the combination of Dabney and Plantz.

Plantz discloses a Group Publishing System for permitting coordinated publishing, assembly and administration of texts by authors or editors. When an editor signs into the system, access is given to the editor to a menu of topics, subtopics, or chapters for which work by the authors is either complete or which is

awaiting editing. A menu of topics that have already been edited by this editor and which are approved for further editing by other types of editors (e.g. a grammar editor) is also provided.

Claims 7 and 8 depend from independent claim 1. Independent claim 1, as amended, includes the limitation of receiving a story concept for the story. As discussed above for claim 1, Dabney does not teach or suggest this limitation. Applicant respectfully submits that Plantz also does not teach or suggest the missing limitation. Plantz is directed to coordinating the assembly of texts, and does not disclose or suggest receiving a story concept for the story, as claimed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 7 and 8 are not rendered obvious by the combination of Dabney and Plantz under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Dabney in view of Mullins

Claims 11-13, 19-21, 27 and 30-33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Dabney in view of Mullins, U.S. Patent No. 5,100,154 ("Mullins"). Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are patentable over the combination of Dabney and Mullins.

Mullins discloses a game for participants to share in the composition of short stories. Cards are provided to determine a character profile for each player's main character. A genre category in which each player is required to compose is determined using a spinner. Participants compose the beginnings of a short story in the genre chosen, about a character described by the character cards and write as much as possible within a set time limit. At the end of the time limit, story compositions are passed to another player and writing continues. The process is repeated until all participants have contributed to every other participant's story. The stories are read and awards are given for the compositions.

Claims 11-13, 19-21, 27, 30 and 32-33 depend from independent claims 1, 14, 22 and 31. Independent claims 1, 14, 22 and 31, as amended, each include the limitation of posting or submitting a story concept for a story. As discussed above for

independent claims 1, 14 and 22, Dabney does not teach or suggest this limitation. Applicant respectfully submits that Mullins also does not teach or suggest the missing limitation. Mullins is directed to providing a genre and character profile using cards and a spinner, and does not teach or suggest a posting or submitting a story concept as claimed. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 11-13, 19-21, 27 and 30-33 are not rendered obvious by the combination of Dabney and Mullins under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome and the pending claims are in condition for allowance.

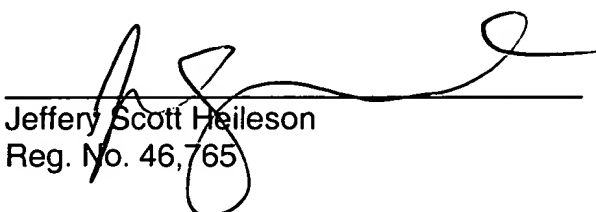
If the Examiner determines the prompt allowance of the claims could be facilitated by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to contact Scott Heilesen at (408) 720-8300.

Authorization is hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any charges that may be due. Furthermore, if an extension is required, then Applicant hereby requests such extension.

Respectfully submitted,

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